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16 January 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Briefing of Edwin Weisl, Sr., Cyrus Vance and
 Edwin Weisl, Jr.**

1. In accordance with arrangements made with Edwin Weisl, Sr., by the Director, a briefing was given at the Agency on 16 January 1959 at 4:45 p.m. Present for the Agency were: DCI and Messrs. Scoville, Sheldon, Stoertz and Warner. Mr. Vance had telephoned previously indicating that Weisl, Jr., also would be present.

2. Mr. Weisl, Sr., indicated that hearings were going to be held in the near future by the Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee and also partially in conjunction with the Space Committee, both of which are chaired by Senator Johnson. There was no clear indication precisely of which Committee they were connected with and it is probably safe to assume that they are basically assisting Senator Johnson. This was confirmed by their physical location in Room G-16 of the Capitol. (Ken BeLieu, Staff Director of the Senate Space Committee, telephoned earlier in the day to discuss briefly the Weisl-Vance visit. He indicated that this was intended to be a prehearing reconnaissance to fill in the new information that might be available. Mr. BeLieu further indicated that he was discouraging Senator Johnson from requesting the Director to appear before the full Committee and said he assumed this was in accordance with our views.)

3. The Director led off by briefing on the long-range air force of the Soviet indicating the current size mentioning the Bison-Bear cutback from what was expected indicating that it was possibly based on poor performance of the Bison or that the Soviets were putting more emphasis on their missile program. The specific questions and answers are recorded in the attached memorandum.

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4. Weisl, Sr., indicated that they plan in the near future to call Secretary Quarles, General Twining and officials of the NASA to get the details on the U. S. programs. Weisl, Sr., stated he did not believe it was necessary for the DCI to brief the full Committee. The meeting was then concluded at about 5:45 p. m. having been very pleasant and informal throughout and the Weisls and Vance seemed satisfied that they had gotten the information they needed.

S/ John S. Warner
JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

Attachment
Questions & Answers

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